

VZCZCXRO9369
OO RUEHDBU
DE RUEHAH #0604 1701220
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 191220Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8883
INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE 2612
RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA IMMEDIATE 0073
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK IMMEDIATE 2903
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE IMMEDIATE 0068
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT IMMEDIATE 5032
RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN IMMEDIATE 0063
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 0448
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//DHO-2/REA/NMJIC-J2//
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5/RUE//
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

S E C R E T ASHGABAT 000604

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DEPT FOR SCA/CEN (NICOLAIDIS)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/19/2017

TAGS: [EAIR](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [MNUC](#) [KN](#) [SY](#) [AM](#) [KZ](#) [KG](#) [TI](#) [TX](#) [UZ](#)

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN DENIES OVERFLIGHT TO SYRIAN FLIGHT

REF: A. ASHGABAT 599

[1](#)B. STATE 84289

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires, a.i. Jennifer L. Brush for reasons 1.
4 (B), (C) and (D).

[1](#)1. (S) Turkmenistan's Foreign Affairs Deputy Chairman Rashit Meredov called in Charge on June 19 to inform her that the flight referred to in ref b had requested overflight both to Pyongyang and back. The flight had reported it was carrying baby food. Meredov said the government had approved the overflight based on this information, but that the flight had not, in fact, overflown Turkmenistan on its way to Pyongyang.

Based on the reftel information embassy provided, Meredov said, the government had refused overflight for the return leg from Pyongyang.

[1](#)2. (S) Turkmenistan continues to cooperate with USG requests for overflight denial for suspicious flights. It has complied with at least two prior USG requests regarding Iran-origin flights to North Korea. This is the first time Turkmenistan has been asked to comply with a denial request for a Syria-origin flight. Turkmenistan takes these requests very seriously and both the late President Niyazov and current President Berdimuhammedov refer to this cooperation as doing Turkmenistan's share in the Global War on Terrorism.

Meredov asked that CENTCOM Commander Admiral Fallon, who will meet with Berdimuhammedov July 17, be informed of Turkmenistan's compliance with this latest USG request. Turkmenistan also requests that this cooperation be handled discretely and not be publicized or shared with other governments.

BRUSH